

Owned and published daily by The Tribune Association, a New York corporation. Office: 150 Nassau street, New York.

Subscription Rates: By Mail, Postage Paid outside of Greater New York. Daily and Sunday, one month, \$1.50; three months, \$4.50; six months, \$8.00; one year, \$15.00.

Foreign Subscriptions: To all countries in the Universal Postal Union, including postage.

Canada Rates: Daily and Sunday, one month, \$1.00; three months, \$3.00; six months, \$5.00; one year, \$9.00.

Entered at the Postoffice at New York as Second Class Mail Matter.

Readers will confer a favor by advising us when they are unable to procure a copy of the Tribune from their newsdealer.

ALL "IFS."

The opponents of the dual system subway contracts have laid their cards on the table and the public may now see what weak hands they hold.

And if it gets the Mitchell-Maithe lines built, behold what becomes of the preferential payment which has been so much denounced!

But if it gets the Mitchell-Maithe lines built, behold what becomes of the preferential payment which has been so much denounced!

In place of dispatch the opponents of the dual system propose delay; in place of certainty they propose uncertainty.

GROTESQUE.

Few politicians have the saving sense of humor when it comes to appraising their own pretensions. Thus it happens that one of the loudest agitators for "economy" in the House majority is the Hon. Isaac R. Sherwood.

General Sherwood broke down the good resolves with which the Democratic party assumed power in the lower branch of Congress by forcing the passage a year or more ago of his \$75,000,000 pension bill.

HELP FOR THE GRAFTERS.

A bill presented to the Legislature recently by Assemblyman Willmott, of Kings County, provides that a member of the police force of this city arrested for the commission of a crime shall not be dismissed on a complaint based on the criminal charge until that determination of the criminal proceedings.

Without the Beckers and Foxes of the Police Department would be greatly pleased by the enactment of such a law. It would protect their interests.

police force. Surely, no new bars to prevent their dismissal should be erected. It is plain that the very nature and spirit of departmental workings assure any member of the force that when under fire he will not get the worst of the deal from his fellows and superiors.

NO EXCUSE LEFT.

The railroads have now no reasonable excuse for declining to arbitrate under the Erdman act.

They have been objecting that the public would not be sufficiently represented upon a commission in which the neutral members were not in a majority, and this they alleged to be the chief ground for their unwillingness to have the dispute with their firemen arbitrated by an Erdman commission of three.

An Erdman act commission would consist of one representative of the railroads, one of the firemen and one neutral. The commission just proposed by the railroads would consist of two representatives of the railroads, two representatives of the firemen and two neutrals.

The proportions would be the same. The neutrals would be in a minority, in spite of all that the railroads have said about the defect of the Erdman act in not recognizing the paramountcy of the public's interests by means of a majority of commissioners representing the public.

How much patience do they suppose the public will have with them if they cause a strike by their unwillingness to arbitrate according to the legal method when the method which they themselves propose is really inferior to and less practicable than the legal one? A certain force attached to their position so long as they stood out for arbitration by a board composed chiefly of neutrals, though the public did not see enough force in it to justify bringing on a business catynas for the sake of it.

They are not holding out for anything worth while to the public or to themselves unless their purpose is, as the firemen allege, to avoid a proceeding in which evidence is taken under oath. It is a strong point in favor of arbitration under the Erdman act that proceedings under it have a public and legal character. The people are interested in having a controversy of this kind settled in a way that is above-board upon indisputable evidence.

Let the railroads obey the law or be held responsible by the public for the strike that will follow.

KILL THAT BILL!

The Mexican imbroglio ought to have at least one prompt and decisive result of direct pertinence to American interests—namely, the killing of the foolish and mischievous bill now before Congress which provides for our settling out of the Philippines at a fixed date in the near future. The most bitter and hostile satirist of American affairs could surely wish no more effective theme than that which was supplied in the spectacle of Congress simultaneously contemplating independence for the Philippines and intervention in Mexico, though if he wished a pendant to it he could readily find it in the record of our actual intervention in Cuba and the recent prospect that that unwelcome act would have to be repeated. What a performance it would be for the United States with one hand to snatch independence away from a country which had possessed it for a hundred years on the ground that in our opinion it was incapable of exercising independence according to our standards, and with the other hand to thrust independence upon another country which never had possessed it and which by the universal testimony and judgment of mankind was immeasurably less qualified to exercise it than the other!

Mexico had, before the European invasion and conquest, a far higher civilization than the Philippines, and therefore was and is endowed with a richer legacy of aboriginal traditions. It was occupied by Europeans at an earlier date than the Philippines, and thus has been for a longer time under their influence. Its population contains a vastly larger admixture of European stocks, and the united it is much more homogeneous and united in race, language, religion and all the elements of national unity. For a century its has been schooling itself in self-government, and it has been for that period in direct contact and intimate intercourse with the United States, with all the benefits of influence which that fact may imply. In every respect, therefore, Mexico is to

be reckoned better fitted for self-government than the Philippines. Yet none of us regards it as particularly well fitted, while many who are both well informed and sympathetic cannot help regarding it as sadly incapable of self-government at anything like our own standard, and some are even declaring that its incapacity is so marked that we must intervene and take away from it the power which it cannot use aright. If so, what a bitter travesty upon reason it would be to abandon the Philippines to "stew in their own juice," as this ill-conceived Jones bill provides!

It is necessary to bear in mind, furthermore, the great and essential difference between the two countries in respect to our relations with them. We have no responsibility whatsoever for Mexico, excepting to the slight degree implied in the maintenance of the Monroe Doctrine. It never was a colony or a protectorate of ours, or under our instruction and guidance. We did not intervene to take it away from Spain. We have no authority over it. No matter what excesses might occur in the course of a revolution, nobody could say that we were accountable, either through having interfered in Mexican affairs or through having withdrawn therefrom. If we should intervene there we should be committing an act of war. On the other hand, we are in every respect directly responsible for the Philippines by virtue of our having forcibly removed them from Spanish control and having for nearly fifty years held them under our own government, instruction and discipline. We are responsible for what they are and for what they may now do, and we should be directly responsible for whatever happened in them or to them after their abandonment.

No rational American could contemplate the idea of intervention in Mexico—which would in all probability mean a war of conquest—without the utmost repugnance and as the very last resort in an extremity which should be all but unthinkable. But neither should any one more complacently regard a proposition to put ourselves under unescapable obligations thus to intervene, again and again, indefinitely, in still more formidable troubles, not just across our border, but at the other side of the world. There is no paradox, but simple and practical truth in saying that every consideration which restrains us from meddling in Mexico also urges us to refrain from creating something immeasurably worse than Mexico in the Philippines. In fortifying itself for prudent dealing with the Mexican crisis Congress can perform no better act of preparation than that of putting a final quietus upon the Philippine abandonment bill.

NAVIGATION AND POWER.

There may be ground for differences of opinion concerning some special and local details of the scheme for establishing a power plant at Windsor Locks, on the Connecticut River, though we have seen no convincing arguments against the plan as a whole. But certainly there is logical force in Senator Root's plea for the right of the federal government thus to utilize the flow of navigable rivers; at least as what we might call a by-product of its indispensable work of improving navigation.

To improve navigation does not by any means mean merely the deepening and widening and straightening of channels. There are many rivers in this country which need to be canalized, at least to the extent of constructing dams and locks at certain points. Without such works they are useless for navigation, while with them they are capable of bearing much commerce. Now, the federal government is surely as competent to build a dam as to dredge out a bar, and to construct a lock as to blast a reef.

But when the dam is constructed water power may be developed. What is to be done with it? It would be folly to let it run to waste. It would be unfair to let some one person or corporation seize a monopoly of it. The economical, equitable and rational course is for the government making it available to continue to control it for the general welfare by renting it impartially to all comers. There is reason for believing that if such a policy were intelligently and enterprisingly pursued, especially on the streams which flow from the Appalachians to the Atlantic, inland transportation facilities would be enormously increased and there would be a vast development of power for industrial purposes at a low cost and at a saving of fuel and avoidance of smoke and soot. Italy's "white coal" system awaits its development all along the Atlantic seaboard.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

A revolution in Mexico, continued hostilities in the Balkans, more government suits against corporations, a reported bill at Albany to incorporate the New York Stock Exchange and forced liquidation were sufficient to cause daily declines in the New York stock market and bring about a generally lower level of prices at the close of the week. Following a course mapped out by public demand and by the threatened legislative interference, the board of governors of the New York Stock Exchange passed some rigid rules of regulation to prevent repetitions of irregularities in trading which were responsible for much of the agitation against the Exchange. Provided a sane conception of the business on the Stock Exchange be allowed to rule the action of legislatures, the agitation regarding stock market abuses will soon become a thing of the past. Though the governors of the Stock Exchange allowed the time to pass until public sentiment forced them to act, they have now met the issue, and doubtless will be careful in the future to avoid public criticism. As soon as the public realizes that there will be a strict enforcement of the rules regarding illegitimate methods of trading, confidence will be established. The clearing away of political agitation against Wall Street will cease when the new order of things shall become effective, and then the volume of business will be

larger and more representative of national participation. The week in business represented by commerce and industry preserved a steady tone, according to the trade reports of the commercial agencies. Liberal buying of equipment by the railroads was the leading feature in the iron and steel trade. It was reported that premiums were still being offered for specified delivery and that in many respects the steel business maintains favorable aspects. The drygoods trade was said to be sensibly active in all its leading departments, and the boot and shoe business displayed special activity, with a considerable volume of new orders. In other lines some irregularity existed, but the week in general exhibited a good tone, except in men's wear, where there was a falling off, owing to the strike.

The money situation was slightly less favorable in the local field, as call money rates were firmer and time money showed a decidedly hardening tendency. There were further exportations of gold, and the weekly statement of the Bank of England, which appeared on Thursday, reflected the strain on money in Europe, due to the continuance of the Balkan war. Until the disturbing elements which hang over both money and business at home and abroad have been removed, the trend of business cannot be defined, but last week a more confident tone prevailed among the industries in the East than had been reported since the closing weeks of 1912.

Dr. Charles W. Eliot's genial of the remarks attributed to him in a dispatch recently sent out by The Associated Press and widely published will be heartily welcomed by all who look to the president of the National Civil Service Reform League for consistent and wise leadership in furthering the merit system. In its comments on the dispatch The Tribune expressed surprise at finding Dr. Eliot quoted in criticism of President Taft's order classifying fourth class postmasters. We are glad to learn that he did not criticize the President's extension of the merit system. He merely expressed the wish that in extending the system some way might be found to make incumbents pass examinations before giving them the status of employees in the competitive classification. That is theoretically right. Practically, it would be block extensions. In the federal service, with the President at once the reviving power and the head of civil service administration, it might be legally possible, but in the New York State service, where the body which classifies has no authority over removals, its adoption as a rule of conduct would mean the perpetuation of every mistaken exemption. The objection is made by nobody more strenuously than by the politicians who want to keep the places open for spoils.

The indignation and hardship which would be caused by arbitrary wholesale removals of large bodies of employees as a step toward classification would injure the merit system in popular esteem out of proportion to the gain. If they were not removed, but merely examined for fitness, there would be no competition, and practically all of them would be able to show a passing fitness for duties which they were already successfully performing.

The "bathtub trust" men escaped prison, but they should not be deluded into thinking that the payment of fines will serve them as an immunity bath for the future. Mexicans Study Aviation—News headline. They certainly seem to be up in the air.

The Democratic public building "pork" bill is about the rawest pork ever set before the American people.

No doubt the policeman who trailed District Attorney Whitman when he was investigating conditions in Harlem were sent to protect him.

Have the fire eaters who want to plunge this country into a war with Mexico because of the sufferings of American citizens there counted up how many more Americans would suffer worse hardships in the towns, ranches and mines scattered over that vast territory before an army of occupation could even come to the rescue of their compatriots threatened by the clash of arms in the City of Mexico?

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Police departments all over the world are using the finger print system of identification. Fingerprinting may be used as a supplementary aid if the following story from Paris in "The London Express" is to be believed: "A burglar was arrested and proved guilty because of his fondness for butter. He broke into a house in the Rue Danton, and before leaving it with a stolen bicycle and other property, ate some food. He had bitten into a large pat of butter, on which his finger prints and the print of eighteen teeth—one of which is broken—were clearly marked that when the man was arrested a detective found him bite into another pat of butter and proved his guilt."

"Is he making good?" "No question of it. He can get coal on credit."—Detroit Free Press.

The gentlemen are requested to come in smoking. "Now," writes an American from a German winter resort, "what would you do if you received an invitation to a card party at the home of a nice family where you had been introduced? Light your cigar or pipe when you reach the house or wait until the maid opened the door? Either would be wrong, for the 'smoking' refers to the coat you are expected to wear. What we call a 'smoker' is known here as a 'smoking.' This sounds as queer to Americans as 'Robbans.' That is what they call the club-house of the bobsleigh club of which the young Duke of Coburg-Gotha is the patron, which has just been erected at Oberhof. Quer use these Germans make of our language."

"Brown sent me a brick by parcel post, but I got even with him." "What did you do?" "Assured that he was wrong on taking out more life insurance."—Detroit Free Press.

bring need not provide expensive garments for the little ones or have fear that their children will become slaves to dress, as they do in some of the fashionable dancing schools. The teacher and her pupils all dress alike, if what they wear may be called "dress." Over a thin women's union suit, which has no sleeves and legs only a few inches long, the girls wear a short white muslin frock, loosely belted, and nothing more. No stockings and no shoes, and the hair hangs loosely, without a fastening or an ornament. The children dance to the music of one violin, which the teacher plays.

AND THEN.

In Antaredra, March 26, 1912. "He was a brave soul. He went out into the blizzard and we have not seen him since."—Captain Scott on the death of Captain Oates.

But know beyond the blazes that, face to face, shrouded in bay north and without grace, Death grimly waited, ruler of that shore, Impassable, unless the ready sword, That cleave the conqueror, leaves the globe in pieces.

In these dread Polar hours only the race is victor and the name is prominently born. The struggle of earth achieved in vain? No, no, behind these accidents of strife, Triumphant, as if messengers of the divine.

The testament of this heroic strain! They lose and lastly who would save this life! Since man hears Godhead's voice in sacrifice!—Harvey M. Watts, in The Philadelphia Public Ledger.

The Princess Radoxa and Nadejda, the daughters of King Ferdinand of Bulgaria, who are aged fifteen and fourteen, in a letter to "The Children's Magazine" of London, say: "We beg you, dear editor, you who can write so beautifully, to ask your readers who are enjoying a happy home to help our poor orphans. We would like to establish some local orphanage for these poor children, and want to be good to them. We will send our portraits to all those readers who help us."

In accordance with the request of the princesses, "The Children's Magazine" has opened a fund for the benefit of the orphans of the Bulgarian soldiers who have fallen in the war.

"It's remarkable how quickly literary tastes change in this country." "That's so. I don't believe I've seen a book of fiction sold for a year or more."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

CONDEMNNS GENERAL DIAZ

Every Mexican Owe Loyal Support to Madero, Says Correspondent.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Whatever the outcome of the death struggle between President Madero and General Diaz, the sympathy of all supporters of constitutional government is, of necessity, with President Madero. To President Madero was intrusted the constitutional government of Mexico by the vote of the Mexican people. In the present contest put on him by General Diaz, who is alive today, despite his past treasonable revolt against constitutional government, because President Madero chose to permit constitutional, rather than martial, law to prevail in his case, President Madero has no choice but to defend the constitutional government of Mexico.

Every loyal Mexican, irrespective of party or personal preference, owes allegiance to Madero in the present crisis, and it is difficult for Americans to understand the attitude of certain leading Mexicans who profess to consider the struggle between the President of the Mexican Republic and the revolting General Diaz as a political struggle between two factions, in which they have no obligation to take a part. This culpable indifference on the part of many Mexicans of prominence, and apparently of a major part of the Mexican populace, jeopardizes not only the cause of constitutional liberal government in Mexico, but the very autonomy of the country.

Imagine an American President being put in the position of defending his office against a rebellious army officer, and being called upon to resign by that rebellious officer. Is there an American who would fall to recognize his obligation to give every support in his power to the elected President, no matter what his party or how great his dislike for the President personally? Would any American tolerate for a moment the protest of foreign powers in behalf of neutral residents when the cause of constitutional government hung in the balance?

Suppose William H. Taft had been elected to the Presidency, and that thereafter some powerful officer in the army had risen in revolt, taking with him a part of the army. Does any one doubt for a moment to whom the support of the American people would be given? Would not every real American hasten to volunteer his services for the struggle? Whatever his faults, Madero was elected by the people President of Mexico, and under great difficulties has sought to establish law and order in Mexico. That he was neither unskillful nor cruel is shown by his lenient treatment of both Reyes and Diaz. He has been accused of putting too many of his relatives in office. Does not the bad faith of those to whom he has interested in high office, who have used their offices to betray him, justify him in placing in office relatives whom he knew he could trust?

There were lawful, bloodless constitutional methods of deposing Madero from the Presidency, did the Mexican people find them necessary. All civilization must condemn the method resorted to by General Diaz, a method that was regardless of the lives of non-combatants, of women and children, and destructive of property and of the beautiful capital city of Mexico, a method that left no choice to President Madero but to fight. This course and the releasing of thousands of criminals to prey on a defenseless city can find no justification in the eyes of civilization. JOSEPH T. KEHLEY. New York, Feb. 14, 1913.

LO, THE POOR BARBER

A Lack of Refinement, Ignorance of Air Currents, Cause the Trouble.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: It is a great misfortune to those who are compelled to visit barber shops that all barbers are not properly versed with a sense of duty. Perhaps even if it might not be possible to avert a disagreeable occurrence which every barber's customer has experienced, it is true it is necessary for the barber to hold his head somewhere above that of his victim, but it doesn't seem necessary that the victim should be compelled to tolerate the offensive breath of the barber blown in his face throughout the shaving operation.

Every man who visits barber shops has met with this affliction. For health's sake alone something should be done in the way of teaching the barber properly to direct his breath. Certainly the barber owes it as a courtesy to his customers to avoid such an unpleasant occurrence. But no barber that the writer has ever discovered has been free from criticism in this connection. I thought that perhaps by writing this

letter you might be good enough to publish it in your columns and something might be found which would avert the nuisance. Perhaps some device could be found which the barber could wear. At any rate, such devices are worn in parts of Japan and Korea by barbers, and that we are not less civilized than they, or less alert to the importance of spreading contagion in this manner.

So large a percentage of the male population of this city is afflicted by this nuisance that I feel justified in attempting to solicit your assistance in this matter. JOSEPH GRILES. New York, Feb. 10, 1913.

TREACHERY AGAINST COURAGE

Mrs. Blatch Says Straw Vote of Anti-Suffragists Will Prove Nothing.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The anti-suffragists, we understand, are taking a straw vote by circulating broadcast in New York a reply postal card asking how many women of each household are favorable, opposed or indifferent to suffrage. If a return, full and perfect, could be obtained, we should then know what proportion of women grasp the meaning of the next development in the evolution of modern democracy. We should be enabled also to make a rough comparison between the number of women who stand for their own emancipation and the number of men who have stood for their own liberty in the struggles of the past. There has always been a large body of doubters, of the indifference of the actively opposed in every fight for human progress.

Every camp has had its traitors. Every army battling for its rights has had its deserters. American independence was jeopardized again and again by the Tories in our midst. In the 60's the North was weakened by its Copperheads. In every struggle for liberty the few not only have to conquer the real foe, but have to carry to their shoulders the sudden mass of indifference in their own ranks, and suffer the stigma of the voters who will profit in the end by the hard won victory. The cause of the emancipation of woman is not peculiar in having its Tories and its Copperheads.

But in what proportion have we, in our class, Tories and Copperheads? Are they, in proportion to the interested and active, greater than in men's political battles of the past? Do the women who are indifferent or opposed to suffrage outnumber the negroes who were indifferent and opposed to their enfranchisement in the reconstruction period? Do the indifferent women surpass the number of English farm laborers who were opposed to the enfranchisement of their class in 1832? What was the proportion of men active and aggressive in the movement for the enfranchisement of the industrial class in England in 1867, of the commoners in 1832, of those without landed property in the Empire State in 1837? No exact data are obtainable. But we do know that never in history has any class risen as one man to fight for itself political liberty. If we could know the proportion of the far-sighted and courageous to the short-sighted and cowardly in every fight humanity has made for democracy, the woman's battle of the last century would show as many courageous, clear-sighted souls, as few cowardly and traitorous, as any struggle for liberty in history. But no data exist by which to make the comparison. Men never stopped to count the traitors in their ranks. We shall not pause to keep tally of ours.

It satisfies us to know that the brave win the battle, and the traitors never have faith enough in their swiftness of conversion to attempt to undo the victory. Our traitors, our Copperheads, believe so little in their contention that votes for women will be the undoing of home and state, that where our victory has been won in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Arizona, Oregon, Kansas, Washington, and California they raise not a hand to reverse the verdict. The majority of the anti-suffragist in the suffrage states is a measure of her hypocrisy.

Instead of meeting evil in nine commonwealths, the anti-suffragist proposes a straw vote in one state. But, alas! all straw votes are as the wind blows "worthless" things. The women in Ohio were heartened up by the verdict of straw votes taken on trolley cars, railway trains and everywhere. They won the vote in these pre-election contests two to one. But on Election Day, September 2, 1912, the women went down to defeat.

It illustrates the unreliability of such informal contests that when some one took a straw vote on the anti-suffrage postal card vote it was found that of the nine women present at a committee meeting only five had received the card. Nearly half the women, then, for whom the cards were intended did not get them. A very bad foundation for even a straw vote to stand on! Of the five receiving the postals only three replied! The action of the two who had not replied was not the result of carelessness. They declined to vote because they believed any straw vote a futile thing, and because they held that the vague opinion of a vague constituency, whether affirmative or negative, should not be taken as in any way affecting the next step in the evolution of democracy.

Woman suffrage is coming. When it comes it will be by accepted constitutional channels. When it comes it will be by the approval of the majority of men. The voters will decide. HARRIET STANTON BLATCH. New York, Feb. 12, 1913.

CONSIDERS GUARD EXPENSIVE

Unit for Only Duty Called On to Perform, Says "Taxpayer."

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: If, as is so often intimated, the National Guard of the State of New York is a social rather than a military body, would it not be well to consider whether or not the public treasury for its housing and maintenance might be saved or employed to better purpose? The only active service the guard has been called upon to perform in fifty years was during the Cuban war, when more than half of the enlisted men were rejected by the United States as unfit and their places filled by volunteers, necessitating months of training before any regiment was ready for service.

The guard also has been called on for police duty at strikes, a service which is very expensive, for which citizen soldiery is entirely unfit, and the utility of which was demonstrated not long ago in Pennsylvania, when the strikers took away the guard from the authorities, and in fact on the arrival of a few of the state constabulary. Again, there are regiments in this as well as other states which have never been called to strike duty and never will be.

The reports of the regular army officers following such affairs as the recent manoeuvres in Connecticut are not very comforting to the people who furnish the money, while the new proposition to pay all the guardsmen, combined with the miserable squabble just ended at Albany, is not calculated to arouse much enthusiasm in the breast of at least. ONE TAXPAYER. New York, Feb. 14, 1913.

POINCARÉ'S UNIFORM

First President Since Marshal MacMahon to Possess One.

(Copyright, 1913, by the Brentwood Company.)

Raymond Poincaré is the first Chief Magistrate of the French Republic since Marshal MacMahon who is entitled to a uniform, namely, the dark green uniform of the members of the Academy, adorned with green silk embroidery and finished off by a cocked hat and sword. It is a very attractive uniform, which was devised by the first Napoleon, and by wearing it Raymond Poincaré will be spared the obligation of donning evening dress for most official ceremonies and state functions that take place in the morning or afternoon.

Evening dress never looks well by day. To English speaking people when worn in the morning it carries the suggestion of having been on the night before, and of not having yet returned home. Never did it look less advantageous than when President Faure was obliged to don it on arriving at St. Petersburg, after an extremely rough voyage up the Baltic, in order to be welcomed on landing by the Czar, the grand dukes and all the great dignitaries of the Muscovite empire at 5 o'clock a. m.

The uniform of France's Forty Immortals will be far more dignified and appropriate. Moreover, its sombre, unobtrusive character—devoid of all gold lace and suggestive only of eminence in the arts and sciences—carries with it a distinction that is peculiarly in keeping with the role of Chief Magistrate of a republic such as France.

Of course, the Protocol, that is to say, the bureau of the Department of Foreign Affairs which has hitherto ruled supreme in matters of Presidential and official etiquette in France, may argue that there is no precedent for the wearing of such a uniform by the Chief Magistrate of the republic, and may further urge that it is not seemly that the latter should be garbed in identically the same uniform that worn by all the other members of the Academy. But Poincaré is not likely to allow himself to be starved by any such representations, and the representing the vast superiority of the green uniform to a dreadful evening dress by day, may be relied upon to wear it on all state occasions.

It may be recalled that several of his predecessors as Chief Magistrate of France were anxious to have a uniform indicative of their rank. Thiers was dissuaded only with considerable difficulty from donning the gold-embroidered, gold-embellished uniform of a field marshal, as supreme chief of the army, by the representation of close friends, who were alive to the extent to which such a uniform would have emphasized, in a comical manner, his phenomenally diminutive stature. President Grevy was indifferent to uniforms and preferred his shirt-sleeves.

But President Faure went to the length of having uniforms and costumes designed for him, and was deterred from having them made to wear on his state visit to St. Petersburg only by the fact becoming known and being treated with much ridicule by the Parisian press. No uniform that has ever been designed can be half so fit for the occupant of that high office as that of the French Academy.

A Tall Plenipotentiary.

Sir Brooke Boothby, whose death has just taken place in London, was for many years, with his stature of 6 feet 7 inches, the tallest member of the English diplomatic service, from which he was compelled to retire through the wreck of his health while filling the post of Minister Plenipotentiary to Chili. He is succeeded in his ancient baronetcy, dating from the reign of Charles I, by his next brother, Charles, and, as the latter is unmarried, the second brother, Herbert Boothby, who spent a number of years in this country and Canada, has a fair chance of coming into the title.

Herbert Boothby has had a most extraordinary career, and has been in turn an officer of the English army, a clergyman of the Church of England, a schoolmaster in China and Japan, a Benedictine monk and afterward a member of the strictest of all Trappist monasteries in Canada. Leaving the latter, he drifted to New York, where he suffered all sorts of hardships and privations before finally being shipped back by friends of his family to England in a state of complete destitution and broken health. When over here he gave the impression of being a very gifted but erratic brother, and was distinguished, like his brother, for his exceptional height.

The family of Boothby is of Danish origin, and was settled in Lincolnshire before the Norman Conquest. Thobaldus de Boothby was governor of Pontefract Castle, which he defended for the Lancastrians during the Wars of the Roses, and Henry Boothby was created a baronet by Charles I in 1647. The new baronet is the twelfth of his line, the Boothbys having been as a general rule long lived. Sir William, the ninth baronet, married Fanny Nesbitt, a famous actress of the early decades of the nineteenth century, and one of the ancestors of the Boothbys of to-day was Lord Mayor of London.

King Escapes Awkward Contretemps.

King Alfonso narrowly escaped what would have been an unfortunate contretemps on the occasion of his recent trip across the French frontier to Pau. The evening of his arrival there by motor he, with the members of his suite, attended at the Grand Theatre the performance of "The Kreutzer Sonata" by a French travelling company. Everybody present was greatly impressed by the acting of the woman who played the principal role, and between the acts the King sent one of his gentlemen-in-waiting with a beautiful bouquet of flowers to the artist, with an expression of the pleasure and enjoyment which he and all those with him had derived from her moving interpretation of the part of the heroine.

The artist's camp on his way to the audience dressing room happened to inquire her real name. When he heard it he beat a hasty retreat. For the actress in private life was no other than Mlle. Le Kipper, daughter of the anarchist leader in Spain who had been sentenced to death by a court-martial at Barcelona as the one person chiefly responsible for the sanguinary and terribly destructive anarchist insurrection there a few weeks previously. Ferrer at his death left a considerable amount of property. But it went to the woman who had been his companion and not to his two daughters, who were obliged to work for their living.

MARQUESE DE FONTENAY.

LOOKS THAT WAY.

From The Charleston News and Courier. Only 61,000,000 pounds of mail were sent out under the franking privilege last year. Some of the Congressmen must have decided to leave their furniture at home.